Gerald Posner
300 E 54 St.,#28C
New York, NY 10022-5026

8/4/93

Dear Gerald,

Thanks for the copy of your 4/22/92 letter covering the return of the pictures. This time I'll be careful to not misfile it.

I'll be glad to get the clippings. I have already established a file, meaning that mostly I have a labelled file folder, for each of the coming books. Aside from the Dahlin 5/3 piece I've seen almost nothing save on McGinniss.

I'm sorry you did not want some devil's advocacy, from that story, because I believe it describes what is impossible in your book. And I am not talking about any "interpretations of evidence." Time will tell. If you had indicated you were doing that kind of book I'd have offered it.

And I could have helped you on Lifton. Came a time when I decided to reconstitute the memo that Livingstone' cop stole for Lifton. If you have any further interest on him Roger Feinman, a lawyer formerly with CBS News, did a short book I believe is fine. Only xerox copies now available. I think he has found no publisher. Has no agent.

Minor corrections I know in advance I'll disgree with virtually all who use my records. Thanks for what you say about it, though.

When you are promoting the book, if you have any good confrontations you'd like to have in the file I'll be making for history I'll be glad to add them without any comment on them. I'll probably annotate the copy of your book for that purpose, too.

If and when we can reschedule that dinner, fine. Be interested in your experiences with the book then, too.

Lil joins me in best wishes to you both.

Sincerely,

Harold

8/4/93

Gerald Posner
300 E 54 St.,#28C
New York, NY 10022-5026

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Harold

Convinced his work for Cuba was gaining the attention of national leftist leaders, Oswald was encouraged to embark on a new gambit. Having read only a week earlier about anti-Castro militants and their armed training camp, raided by federal agents across the river from New Orleans, Oswald was ready to infiltrate the "enemy." On Monday, August 5, he walked into a Cuban-owned general goods store, Casa Roca.* Behind the counter was the co-manager, Carlos Bringuier, a twenty-nine-year-old Cuban lawyer who also was the New Orleans delegate for the anti-Castro Cuban Student Directorate. Casa Roca served as the Student Directorate's unofficial headquarters, as well as a general clearinghouse for Cuban activities in New Orleans. Bringuier was explaining the Cuban fight against Castro to two fifteen-year-old Americans, Philip Geraci and Vance Blalock, when Oswald walked up to them. Geraci recalled that Oswald asked, "Is this the Cuban exiles' headquarters?"[5]**

"He started to agree with my point of view and he showed real interest in the fight against Castro," recalled Bringuier. "He told me that he was against Castro and that he was against Communism."[6] Then Oswald requested some literature, which Bringuier gave him. "After that, C
Marine Corps and that
that he was willing to tr
Bringuier. "Even more, I
self to fight against Cas

Bringuier rejected the
operations, and the par
had just been raided a fe
reaction was this guy co
Castro just trying to fi
about his offer to train C
walked away from the
ing to Oswald. When t
guerrilla warfare, he re
train, blow up a bridge
powder.[9]

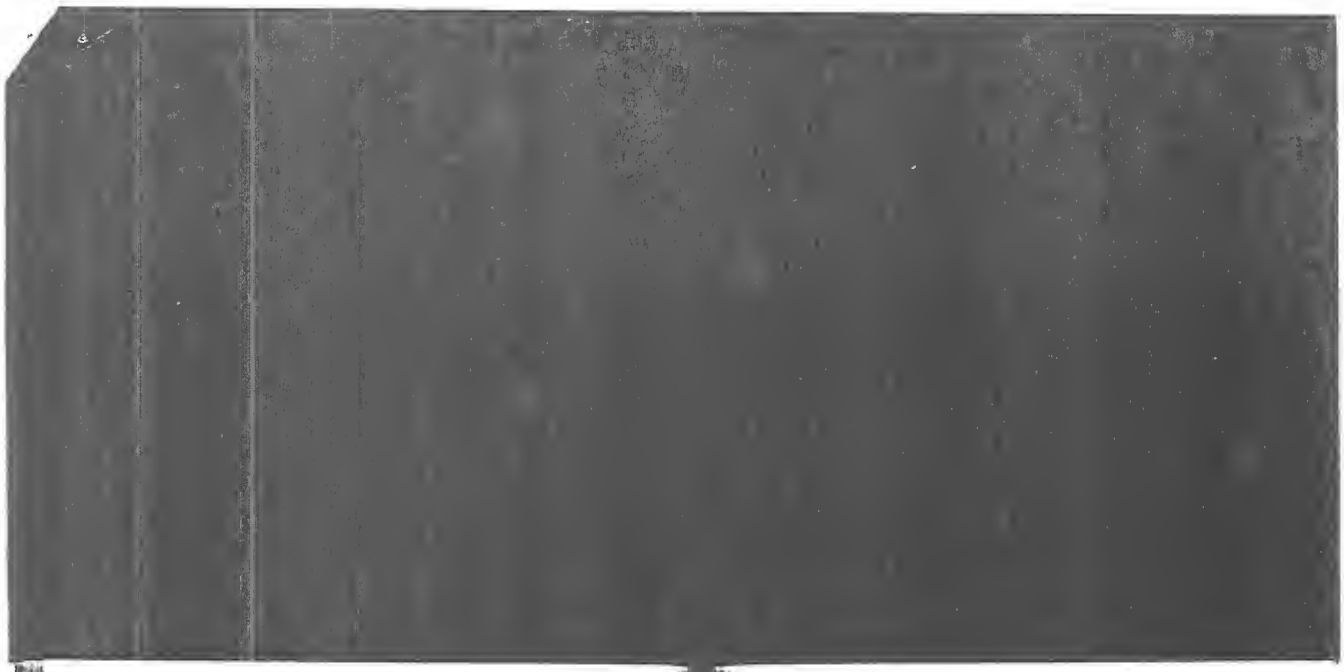
The next day Oswald
Corps training manua
faith.* But Bringuier r
not try to contact him.'
9, one of his Cuban frie
"He was upset and ang
off the bus at Canal Str
that said 'Viva Fidel! H
ble, so he cursed the A
me."[10] Bringuier grabb
with a knife in the bac
lies in chains!" and le
demonstrator. On the
and picked up another
of us went to Canal St
says. "We went down t
a streetcar, even with
direction for that Com

Bringuier returned

*Also on August 5, the Soviet embassy notified Marina that her request to enter the USSR had been forwarded to Moscow for processing. And unknown to the Oswalds, that same day, the FBI interviewed his landlady, Jesse Garner. She confirmed he was in the city. At that point, the New Orleans FBI office became chiefly responsible for Oswald. Special agent Milton Kaack was assigned to the matter.

**In his address book, Oswald had three addresses listed on the same page with Carlos Bringuier's name: 117 Camp, 107 Decatur, and 1032 Canal. Harold Weisberg claimed the first address was a formal-dress shop and the second did not exist. He then juggled the numbers and determined that if Oswald had meant 107 Camp and 117 Decatur, that would lead to two anti-Castro militants. It shows the extent to which some will speculate. In fact, Weisberg searched the addresses when he helped Jim Garrison in his 1967 investigation. Instead, a review of 1963 records reveals there is no mystery or mixup. 117 Camp was the Hispanic-American Discount House, owned by two prominent Cubans (it was only a dress shop when Weisberg saw it years later). 107 Decatur was Bringuier's Casa Roca. 1032 Canal was at the corner of Canal and Ramparts, the New Orleans Discount Center, owned by a Jewish Cuban. The addresses were part of Oswald's efforts to discover the headquarters of the Cuban exiles.

*Bringuier still has th
scribed in pen on the insi



tion, and that said search discloses that Lee Harvey Oswald was never an informant of the FBI, was never assigned a symbol number in that capacity, and was never paid any amount of money by the FBI in any regard. (17H815)

What he does not say is that he can guarantee this was not done under any name other than "Oswald" or under any other bookkeeping arrangement such as having to do with "expenses."

I am willing to believe that Oswald was never in the FBI pay. But neither Hoover nor the Commission *proved* he was not.

In his own private, commercially sponsored Warren Report *Portrait of the Assassin*, Congressman Ford, in the very first chapter, quotes Henry Wade, then Dallas District Attorney and formerly a long-time FBI agent. Wade told Commission General Counsel J. Lee Rankin that he had dispensed $2,000 a month to informants, with no official record. The denials are not persuasive. Wade also told Rankin, apropos of Oswald's use of post office boxes, that they were "an ideal way to handle such transactions and was a way he had used at various times in the past, too."

Suspicion in this matter is not diminished by the absence from the Report of the name "Ronnie Dugger" though Dugger had pertinent information. (His name is mentioned but once in all fifteen volumes of testimony (2H42), and then as having seen activity on what is known in Dallas as "the grassy knoll," west of the Texas School Book Depository Building. He was told the same story as Hudkins.) He is editor of the weekly *Texas Observer*. He had written a well-known book and for major magazines. At the time of the assassination, he was also corresponding for the Washington *Post*. Writing in the February 1967 issue of a Texas magazine, *Latitudes*, he said of his own reporting of the assassination, " ... an official told me that Oswald had been an employee of the FBI and had a certain pay number, which my source gave me. He would not give me his source but said it was solid."

The Commission failed, too, to call Dugger as a witness—or Hudkins, or Sweatt. The Report lists those regarded as "witnesses," if only an unsworn statement was used. Not one of these men was called (R487,490,498). This is one way of "wiping out" a "dirty rumor," but not a persuasive one.

A number of other provocative items scattered throughout the evidence raise questions for which there is no satisfactory answer. For example, in Oswald's pocket address book there are these notations on a page (16H67) that faces a blank page:

Cuban Student
Derectorate (sic)
107 Decatur St
New Orleans, La
Carlos Bringuier

N.O. City Editor "Cowan"
David Crawford
reporter

---

117 Camp
107 Decatur
1032 Canal

After the middle of these three addresses but extending upward from it is "cuban exile store." This is the address of Bringuier's store. Why is it listed twice? What do the other two addresses represent? The Camp street address is across from the International Trade Mart, which since then has moved. It is the address of a clothing store where formal attire is rented. Oswald had no such interests. Why should he have noted it in association with Bringuier?

Or did he make a mistake, or have his own special code? In the building at 107 Camp Street, the Cigali Building, advertising man Ronnie Caire, who was connected with the anti-Castro Cuban groups, then had an office. It was on the Canal Street side, opposite the

Camp Street entrance. Caire says Oswald applied for a job with him, claiming public relations experience. It should by now not surprise the reader to learn that Caire is one of the multitude who were not called as witnesses by the Commission and should have been. His New Orleans reputation is excellent. He is considered a generous man, easily touched. He says he lost about $10,000 on his effort to help the "Crusade," that about $4,000 was raised, and that some of it was "pocketed" by another.

That he was not called as a witness is not because the FBI was unaware of these things. Caire complains that their questionings "cost me about 100 hours" of time.

The Canal Street address is not where Oswald was arrested, which was in the 700 block, and it is not a "good" address but was then and is now a blank one. The numbers go from 1030 to 1034. In the covered-over passageway on that side of 1030 is a small fruitstand. Its number is 1030½.

If Oswald made a mistake and meant 117 Decatur, that is the address of Orest Pena's Habana Bar and Lounge, where there were other interesting developments in the story of Oswald in New Orleans, and at about this time, notably the spectacular and conspicuous drunk staged there by Oswald or his counterfeiter. And why should Oswald have noted the names of the city editor and reporter in the middle of these entries.

We do not know whether he made these notes before or after he got himself arrested in this handbill operation, which makes sense only as part of a scheme to establish a "cover." But there is reason to believe it was not after the arrest, because there is what seems to be such an item in his notebook (16H62), also facing a blank page. It is the listing of WDSU-TV, over which he broadcast *after* his arrest. This listing has the names of several of its staff and their phone numbers

but no address. It logically would have been entered after his arrest.

When this manner of establishing a "cover" is considered in conjunction with the strange business of his notebook copyings and his possession at the time of his arrest of a list of entries that could serve only to show he had been a defector to the Soviet Union, along with the equally perplexing plea of guilty he entered when he was not guilty, it is apparent the whole affair requires explanation the government has not made. The least likely preparation of a sincere Castro sympathizer sallying forth on a propaganda venture that could lead to his arrest is evidence of Communist or Russian connections. This handbill operation seems to have been designed for an arrest and a police record. As soon as Oswald harvested the "pro-Castro" press he thus made, he took it to Mexico with him and used it in an unsuccessful effort to get a Cuban visa. After this failed, he still kept reminders of the affair. One was found when the Dallas police searched his property in the garage of the Paine residence, in Irving, Texas, after his arrest on November 22, 1963. In the inventory of what was seized there is Item #231 (24H335), a "slip of paper containing names Carlos J. Bringuier, Miguel M. Cruz and Lt. William Gaillot." Cruz was with Bringuier when he broke up Oswald's handbill operation; Gaillot, the police officer in charge.

Such items and entries in the notebook would be less troubling if there were any serious official explanation of their purpose and if so many questions did not remain, so many indications of Oswald's intelligence involvement.

When the FBI prepared an "analysis" of this notebook, of what J. Edgar Hoover described (5H112) as "those items in Oswald's notebook requiring investigative attention," the presence in it of the telephone and license numbers of the car of James P. Hosty, Jr., the FBI's Oswald "expert," was not included. Hoover's

TESTIMONY OF LINDA KAY WILLIS

The testimony of Linda Kay Willis was taken at 3:15 p.m., on July 22, 1964, in the office of the U.S. attorney, 301 Post Office Building, Bryan and Ervay Streets, Dallas, Tex., by Mr. Wesley J. Liebeler, assistant counsel of the President's Commission.

Mr. LIEBELER. Would you rise and raise your right hand and I will swear you as a witness. Do you solemnly swear that the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Miss WILLIS. I do.

Mr. LIEBELER. As I told your father, I am an attorney for the President's Commission on the Assassination of President Kennedy, and he has told me that you were with him in the vicinity of the School Book Depository Building at the time of the assassination, and I wanted to ask you two or three questions about that.

First of all, would you state your name for the reporter, please?

Miss WILLIS. Linda Kay Willis.

Mr. LIEBELER. How old are you?

Miss WILLIS. I will be 15, July 29.

Mr. LIEBELER. Your father has told us that you were out in front of the School Book Depository Building along with your sister on the day of the assassination, and your mother and father were also there, is that correct?

Miss WILLIS. Yes, sir.

Mr. LIEBELER. Did you hear any shots, or what you later learned to be shots, as the motorcade came past you there?

Miss WILLIS. Yes; I heard one. Then there was a little bit of time, and then there were two real fast bullets together. When the first one hit, well, the President turned from waving to the people, and he grabbed his throat, and he kind of slumped forward, and then I couldn't tell where the second shot went.

Mr. LIEBELER. Now, you were standing right along the curb on Elm Street, is that right, when the motorcade came by across the street from the School Book Depository Building?

Miss WILLIS. Yes, sir.

Mr. LIEBELER. Did you follow the motorcade down Elm Street at all, or did you stand on the corner up toward Houston Street and watch from there?

Miss WILLIS. I was right across from the sign that points to where Stemmons Expressway is. I was directly across when the first shot hit him.

Mr. LIEBELER. Directly across from the sign that says, "Stemmons Freeway"?

Miss WILLIS. I was right in line with the sign and the car, and I wasn't very far away from him, but I couldn't tell from where the shot came.

Mr. LIEBELER. Did you just stay right there, or did you go on down Elm Street?

Miss WILLIS. I stayed there. I was on the corner across from the courthouse when the motorcade first came down Main Street, and when it turned the corner on Houston, well, I followed along the street with the car, and then he turned the corner on Elm and I stood there where the Stemmons sign is.

Mr. LIEBELER. Did you see the President get hit in the head?

Miss WILLIS. Yes.

Mr. LIEBELER. You actually saw the President get hit that way?

Miss WILLIS. Yes.

Mr. LIEBELER. How far away would you say that you were when you saw that?

Miss WILLIS. Oh, about twice as far as I am from here to this door. Maybe not quite that far.

Mr. LIEBELER. About 25 feet or so?

Miss WILLIS. About that.

Mr. LIEBELER. Now when you saw the President get hit in the head, did you hear any more shots after that?

Miss WILLIS. Yes; the first one, I heard the first shot come and then he slumped forward, and then I couldn't tell where the second shot went, and then the third one, and that was the last one that hit him in the head.

Mr. LIEBELER. You only heard three shots altogether?

Miss WILLIS. Yes; that was it.

Mr. LIEBELER. So you don't think there were any more shots after he got hit in the head?

Miss WILLIS. No.

Mr. LIEBELER. Did you recognize the noises that you heard as shots right away?

Miss WILLIS. No; when the first shot rang out, I thought, well, it's probably fireworks, because everybody is glad the President is in town. Then I realized it was too loud and too close to be fireworks, and then when I saw, when I realized that the President was falling over, I knew he had been hit. But I didn't know how badly.

Mr. LIEBELER. Okay, I just wanted to ask you about whether you heard any shots after the President got hit in the head, and if you didn't hear any more shots, that is really all I wanted to ask you about. Thank you very much.

Miss WILLIS. All right.

TESTIMONY OF HELEN MARKHAM

The testimony of Helen Markham was taken at 10 a.m., on July 23, 1964, in the office of the U.S. attorney, 301 Post Office Building, Bryan and Ervay Streets, Dallas, Tex., by Mr. Wesley J. Liebeler, assistant counsel of the President's Commission.

Mr. LIEBELER. Will you stand and take the oath, please? Do you solemnly swear the testimony you are about to give will be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Mrs. MARKHAM. I do.

Mr. LIEBELER. My name is Wesley J. Liebeler [spelling] L-i-e-b-e-l-e-r. I am an attorney on the staff of the President's Commission investigating the assassination of President Kennedy. I have been authorized to take your testimony for the Commission pursuant to authority granted it by the President in Executive Order No. 11130, dated November 29, 1963, and joint resolution of Congress No. 137. I think you are somewhat familiar with the proceedings of the Commission because you have already testified before the Commission in Washington; is that right?

Mrs. MARKHAM. Yes; but you know, I don't know nothing about the Kennedys—President Kennedy.

Mr. LIEBELER. I understand you were there when Oswald shot Officer Tippit?

Mrs. MARKHAM. Yes; that's right.

Mr. LIEBELER. Since you are familiar with the Commission's procedure, I'll just go right into your testimony. I wanted to ask you some questions about some of the things you told the Commission when you appeared before it on March 26, 1964, when Mr. Ball took your testimony before the Commission.

Mrs. MARKHAM. Yes.

Mr. LIEBELER. Do you remember at that time that Mr. Ball asked you the question, "Did you ever talk to a New York lawyer who said he was from New York?" And that you answered, "No, sir." Mr. Ball then asked you, "Did you ever talk to a lawyer who was investigating the case on behalf of the deceased man, Lee Oswald?" Your answer was, "No, sir." Mr. Ball asked, "Did you ever talk to a man who said he was representing the mother of Lee Oswald?" And you answered, "No, sir." And then Mr. Ball asked you, "You don't remember ever talking to a man named Mark Lane?" And then you answered, No, sir."

Mrs. MARKHAM. Right.

Mr. LIEBELER. Do you remember giving that testimony at that time?

Mrs. MARKHAM. Yes, sir.

Mr. LIEBELER. Have you ever talked to Mark Lane?

Mrs. MARKHAM. No—I haven't—I haven't never seen the man in my life.

Mr. LIEBELER. Have you ever talk to Mark Lane on the telephone?

Mrs. MARKHAM. No.